



PRESS RELEASE

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Commission Awards \$1,220,775 Grant to California State University, Fullerton and Anaheim Unified School District to Improve Teaching and Learning

January 2004 --- California State University Fullerton will receive a three-year grant of \$1,220,775 in federal monies that have been earmarked for improving the quality of teaching. Named ***Continuum for the Advancement of Science Teachers (CoAST)***, this project is designed to address the shortage of highly qualified science teachers in Orange County. The grant will be used to increase the number of students entering science teaching, accelerate their training, and increase their content knowledge. Veteran teachers will also be provided opportunities to advance their skills, knowledge, certification and careers. The projected number of teachers to be served is 600, while almost 55,000 K-12 students will be directly involved.

Additional partners in the CoAST project include Anaheim City Elementary School District, Orange Unified School District, Santa Ana Community College, Project Tomorrow, Orange County Department of Education and the Tiger Woods Foundation.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission has been administering federal funds to improve teacher professional development since 1984. This year the Commission has made awards totaling over \$10 million in the *Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program*.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. Its primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities. More information about the Commission and its work can be found at its website at www.cpec.ca.gov. Regarding this program, you may contact Richard Lodyga, at California State University, Fullerton, at 714-278-4680; or Dr. Donna Perry, Anaheim Union High School District, at 714-999-5601.